## **PARSONS**

## **TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM**

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DATE: February 15, 2013

TO: File

FROM: Andrea Reeves Engelman, Parsons

Pyramid Way and McCarran Boulevard Intersection Improvement Project, Sparks, Washoe County – Addendum to Design Alternatives Report April

2012

SUBJECT:

RTC Project No. 73299

Federal Project No. CM-0191-(063)

NDOT No. WA11-024

Subsequent to the April 2012 Design Alternatives Report, the following information was revised in Section 2.1 Identification of Potential Improvement Concepts of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Additional concepts considered by the TAC included public transportation and transportation management/intelligent transportation systems elements. These concepts were dismissed from further consideration as stand-alone alternatives since neither element meets the project's purpose and need. Public transportation and transportation management/intelligent transportation systems concepts would fail to reduce traffic congestion at the Pyramid Way and McCarran Boulevard intersection to an acceptable Level of Service (currently defined as LOS E in the current RTP).

The RTC has made traffic signal timing adjustments at the Pyramid Way and McCarran Boulevard intersections on several occasions since the environmental review process started in 2006. These adjustments were made as part of the RTC's annual traffic signal timing update program which started several years ago. While minor improvements were seen at the intersection due to these adjustments, the intersection still operates at an LOS F as shown in the 2010 existing LOS analysis (see Table 1-1 in Draft EIS).

The FHWA Technical Advisory T 6640.8A, Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents, states that when considering the reasonable range of alternatives in an EIS, consideration should be given to Mass Transit and Transportation System Managements alternatives. The Technical Advisory also states for both alternatives that "Consideration of this alternative may be accomplished by reference to the regional transportation plan, when that plan considers this option." The 2008 – 2030 RTP addresses public transportation and transportation management/intelligent transportation systems for the region. The proposed Pyramid Way and McCarran Boulevard Intersection Improvements project, and specifically the Preferred Alternative (see Section 2.3.2 in the Draft EIS), is consistent with the RTP.



